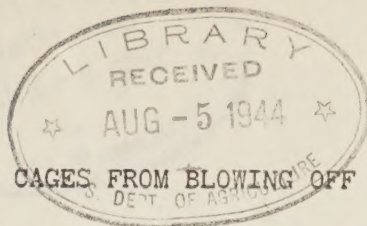


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METHOD OF PREVENTING WIRE CAGES FROM BLOWING OFF OF FLOWERPOTS

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In connection with life-history experiments with the pea aphid, about 200 potted alfalfa plants in 6-inch flowerpots were placed in a field insectary and each pot was covered with a cyclindrical screen-wire cage about 1 foot high. At first, heavy winds blew off many of the cages, destroying records of the aphids confined.

After considering several complicated devices for securing these cages to the pots, an extremely simple method was devised. By means of a small electric drill, two small holes were bored opposite each other near the top of the pot rim, the holes being just large enough to accomodate an ordinary lath nail. The cage was pressed firmly into the soil and nails were pushed through the two holes and into the screen mesh in the cages. Of course, the cage must be large enough to fill the inside diameter of the pot. Under this method cages were held so firmly that the pot and its contents could be lifted by the cage.

A note should be added that, when drilling, it is necessary to keep a constant stream of water, from a large syringe or other source, feeding on the drill. After boring from 6 to 10 holes, the drill becomes dull and it is necessary to break off a small section with a pair of pliers; the new jagged edge will work better than a new drill. Pots vary greatly in the ease with which they can be thus drilled.

